



STEEL

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AS YOU'VE
SEEN, COLONEL
WESTON, UPON
INGESTING
THE DRUG ...

... A
QUANTITATIVE
INCREASE OCCURS
IN THE SUBJECT'S
BODY MASS ...

... INCLUDING EXTREME
DISTORTION OF HIS
SKULL. THE SUBJECT
IS FIRST GRIPPED BY
EUPHORIA...

WHICH
TURNS TO RAGE
AND AN UNCON-
TROLLABLE URGE
TO ACT OUT HIS AN-
GER PHYSICALLY.



YOU
CALL IT
S-TAR?

YES, SIR.
SHORT FOR
SUPER-TAR.
ITS EFFECTS
ARE MORE
POWERFUL.

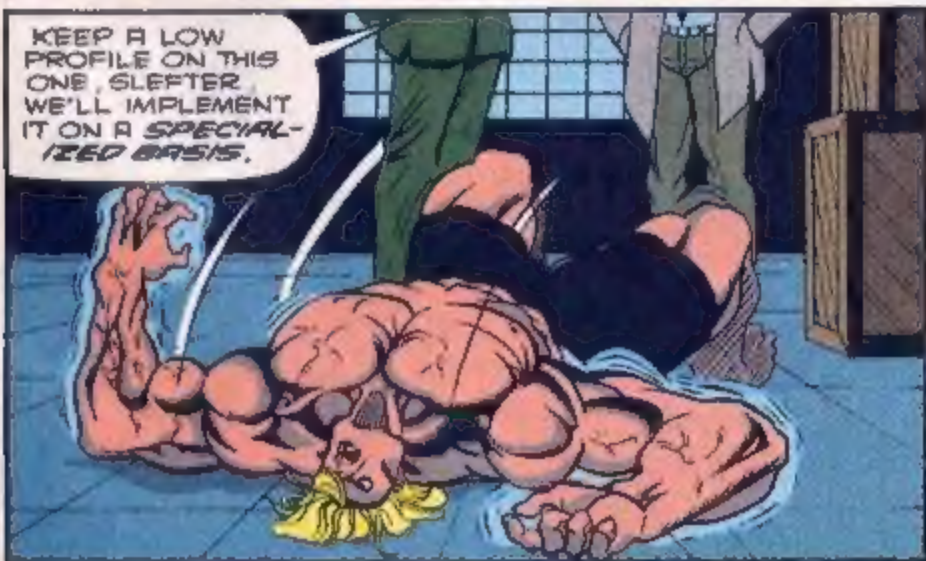


THERE IS A
NEGATIVE,
HOWEVER. ITS
CUMULATIVE
EFFECT IS SOON
LETHAL.

AND AFTER SEVERAL
DOSES, THE UTILIZER
FLATLINES FROM
INTERNAL HEMOR-
RHASINS.



KEEP A LOW
PROFILE ON THIS
ONE, SLEETER.
WE'LL IMPLEMENT
IT ON A SPECIAL-
IZED BASIS.



RARRR!!

HE COULD HAVE
BROKEN AN EIGHT-
INCH STEEL BEAM
AS EASILY AS HE
DID THAT WOODEN
ONE.

MORE!
NEED
MORE...!

I TAKE IT
THAT, LIKE TAR,
THIS NEW DRUG
IS ADDICTIVE.



UTILIZE SPECIAL
PRECAUTIONS
WHEN DISPOSING
OF THE BODY. WE
WOULDN'T WANT
ANYONE ...



"...TRACING IT
BACK TO
AMERTEK."

A GANG OF
AMERTEK
GOONS HIT
MY GRAND-
PARENTS' HOUSE.

FRIGHTENED
MY RELATIVES
HURT MY GRAND-
DAD.

THEY WERE
COMING AFTER
ME... AND THEY
DIDN'T CARE
THAT INNOCENTS
GOT IN THE WAY.

AMERTEK IS
LISTED ON THE STOCK
EXCHANGE.

THEY HAVE
MILITARY CONTRACTS
WORTH MILLIONS...

...AND
HOLDINGS
ALL OVER THE
COUNTRY.

WHY WOULD
THEY BOTHER
SELLING GUNS
AND DRUGS
TO GHETTO
KIDS...?

HOW
A SINGLE MAN
COULD BRING DOWN
SUCH A LARGE
CORPORATION.

NOW I THINK,
NOW, I HAVE
THE ANSWER.

COLONEL
WESTON!

KRKTHWNGG!!

AMERTEK
IS DESTROYING
WASHINGTON
WITH GUNS AND
DRUGS.

YOU HAVE
TEN SECONDS
TO TELL ME
WHY AND
HOW!

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LET HIM GO!
DROP HIM NOW!

BLAM!
BLAM!



THE BODYGUARD!
THOUGHT HE WAS OUT OF THE PICTURE!



IT'S PUBLIC KNOWLEDGE THAT MY ARMOR MAKES ME INVULNERABLE TO WEAPONS FIRE.

BUT THEN, YOU CHOOSE YOUR BODYGUARDS FOR BRAIN, NOT YOU, COLONEL?

WHAP!!

I ASSUME THAT A MAN IN YOUR POSITION WILL DISPLAY GREATER INTELLIGENCE ...AND COOPERATION.

WHO'S PUTTING THE TOASTMASTERS ON THE STREET?

S-SOMEONE IN MY CORPORATION MAY BE INVOLVED IN ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES...

...S-STEEL, ISN'T IT? I'LL... I'LL INVESTIGATE, OF COURSE, BUT-- "TOASTMASTERS"?

SOUNDS LIKE A KITCHEN APPLIANCE--



IT'S THE STREET NAME FOR THE SG-90s, COLONEL! THE GUNS I DESIGNED!



YOU DESIGNED IT?
IRONS--! I
THOUGHT THAT
VOICE SOUNDED
FAMILIAR!

I KNEW YOU WERE
UPSET WHEN BG-808
DESIGNATED FOR
MILITARY USE FELL
INTO TERRORIST
HANDS, JOHN, BUT
THEN--

--WHEN YOU
DESTROYED YOUR
FURTHER
RESEARCH...LEFT
WITHOUT A
WORD...

...I...WE ALL
ASSUMED YOU
WERE DEAD--



I LEFT
BECAUSE THERE
WAS NO ONE AT
AMERTEK I
COULD TRUST.

I'VE COME
BACK BECAUSE
MY INVENTION IS
ARMING THE
GANGS INSIDE
THE BELTWAY.

WHOOOMP!



I DON'T WANT
TO BELIEVE YOU'RE
RESPONSIBLE,
COLONEL, BUT I
PROMISE YOU--

--WHOEVER IS
RESPONSIBLE
WILL PAY.

"I'VE
FINALLY
BEEN
ACCOSTED
BY IRONS."

"NO, I'M FINE.
I PLAYED IT
THE WAY WE
DISCUSSED."

"HE DOESN'T WANT
TO BELIEVE I'M A
BAD GUY," AND
SO HE'S ACTING
STUPID."

NO, HE'S NOT
A BRAIN
SURGEON, BUT
THEN, HIS
KIND SELDOM
ARE.

HE'LL HIT
AMERTEK
NEXT...YES, HE
PRACTICALLY
WARNED
ME...

"...SPOOK ALWAYS WAS TOO SOFT."

I CAN'T TELL YOU HOW SORRY WE ARE, MAY.

I REMEMBER YOUR SPIRAL WHEN HE WAS JUST A LITTLE SPROUT--

AN' NOW THEY'RE GONNA CUT MY BABY UP, BESS.

TAKE OUT HIS HEART, AND STOMACH AND BRAINS TO SEE WHY HE DIED.

THEY KNOW WHY HE DIED, HE--

THEY CALLED IT A MEDICAL-LEGAL AUTOPSY, MAY.

IT'S THE LAW WHEN SOMEBODY'S SHOT LIKE THAT.

COPS TOLD US... IT'S THE LAW.

SPIRAL'S PARENTS ARE DEVASTATED. THEY LOOK LIKE GOOD FOLKS.

THEY KNOW AMALGAM KILLED HIM.

THEY JUST DON'T KNOW IT WAS 'CAUSE HE SNITCHED TO YOU.

YOU DIDN'T TELL YOUR GANG I WAS STEEL.

I DIDN'T TELL YOU NUTHIN' 'BOUT THEM, EITHER.

I KNOW WHAT IT'S LIKE TO HAVE DIVIDED LOYALTIES.

THE COLONEL WAS LIKE A SECOND FATHER TO ME.

I STILL DON'T WANT TO BELIEVE HE'S SUPPLYING THE GANGS WITH GUNS AND DRUGS. AND YET--

IF YOU HADN'T MADE SPIRAL SNITCH TO YOU, HE MIGHT STILL BE ALIVE.

TOO BAD HE DIDN'T HAVE THE SAME COMPUNCTION ABOUT...

"...SETTING
YOU UP
TO DIE."

I'M PLAYING
A DANGEROUS
GAME.

VIRTUALLY
WARNING
THE COLONEL
I'D BE HERE
AT AMERTEK...

...SETTING
MYSELF UP
FOR ATTACK.

A BREAK-
IN! THE
COLONEL WAS
RIGHT!
COME ON!

GUARDS ARE
SCURRYING
FOR THE OTHER
SIDE OF THE
BUILDING
NOW, GOOD.

HERE
WE ARE!

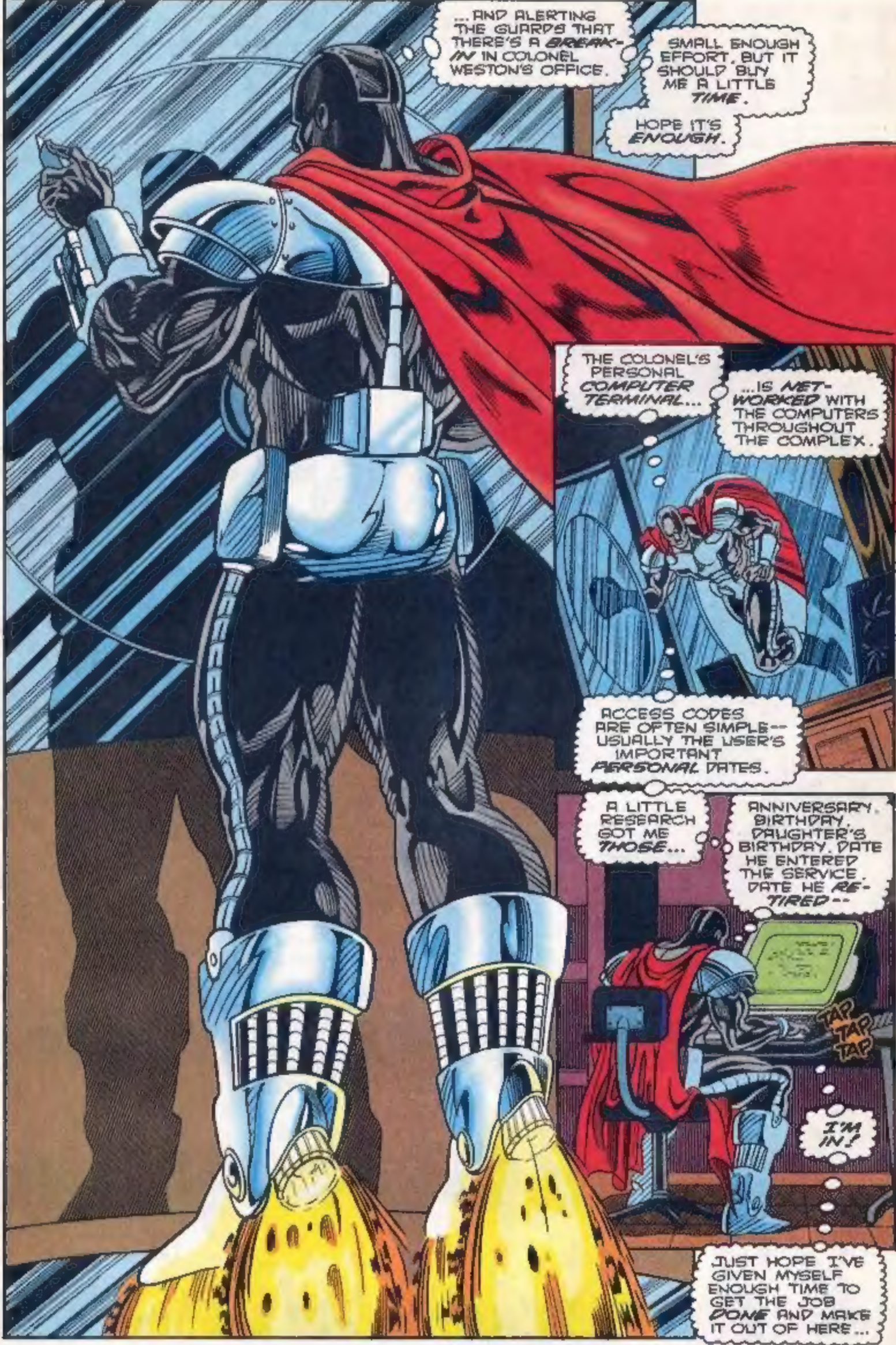
BUT IT WAS THE ONLY
WAY I COULD THINK
OF TO MAKE SURE
THEY'D BE WAITING FOR
ME IN APPROPRIATE
NUMBERS.

BOOM!

TH
OO
M!

TRANSMITTER SHOULD
PREVENT MY TAMPER-
ING FROM ACTIVATING
AN ALARM HERE...

...WHILE THE
SUCTION
DISC SHOULD
KEEP THE CUT
GLASS FROM
FALLING...



...AND ALERTING
THE GUARDS THAT
THERE'S A *BREAK-
IN* IN COLONEL
WESTON'S OFFICE.

SMALL ENOUGH
EFFORT, BUT IT
SHOULD BUY
ME A LITTLE
TIME.

HOPE IT'S
ENOUGH.

THE COLONEL'S
PERSONAL
COMPUTER
TERMINAL...

...IS NET-
WORKED WITH
THE COMPUTERS
THROUGHOUT
THE COMPLEX.

ACCESS CODES
ARE OFTEN SIMPLE--
USUALLY THE USER'S
IMPORTANT
PERSONAL DATES.

A LITTLE
RESEARCH
GOT ME
THOSE...

ANNIVERSARY.
BIRTHDAY.
DAUGHTER'S
BIRTHDAY. DATE
HE ENTERED
THE SERVICE.
DATE HE RE-
TIRED--

TAP
TAP
TAP

I'M
IN!

JUST HOPE I'VE
GIVEN MYSELF
ENOUGH TIME TO
GET THE JOB
DONE AND MAKE
IT OUT OF HERE...

"...IN ONE
PIECE!"

I HAD
EVERYTHING
UNDER
CONTROL.
WAS GOIN'
PLACES AN'
MY FAMILY WAS
PROTECTED.

THEN UNCLE
JOHN
BARGES BACK
INTO OUR
LIVES ...

"...BRINGIN'
THE BIG, BAD
SUPERHERO
STEEL TO
THE 'HOOD.

'CAUSE OF
HIM, OUR
FAMILY WAS
JACKED-UP.

'CAUSE OF
HIM, MY GANG
THOUGHT I
WAS A SNITCH
AN' TURNED ME
OVER TO
AMALGAM.

UNCLE
STEEL
SAVED
ME ...

...AN' GAVE ME
ANOTHER LECTURE
ABOUT **FEAR**
PRESSURE AND
FALLIN' IN WITH
BAD PEOPLE.

HE DOESN'T
KNOW WHAT
IT'S LIKE!
HE DOESN'T
KNOW
NUTHIN'...

...BUT
SWAGGERIN'
AROUND IN
THAT **TIN**
CAN SUIT,
LARGE AN' IN
CHARGE...

...PUTTIN'
OTHER GUYS
ON THE SPOT!

YO, G!
LOOK WHAT
WE GOT
HERE!

THE "SIN-AVE"
THEY CALL
GEM!

THE MARK WHO
WAS WATCHIN' THE
SLICE-N-DICE FLICK WITH
HIS LITTLE CENAVE SQUAD
ON E-STREET'S TURF!

RIALTO'S IN
NEUTRAL
TERRITORY,
TARMAN! IT--

LET ME LAY IT
DOWN FER YOU,
"GEM"! AIN'T
NUTHIN'
NEUTRAL!

FROM NOW
ON, IT ALL
BELONGS TO
E-STREET!

YER
CLOWNIN'!
E-STREET
CAN'T
HOLD DOWN
NUTHIN'!

TOUGH
LITTLE
BUSTER,
AIN'T YA?

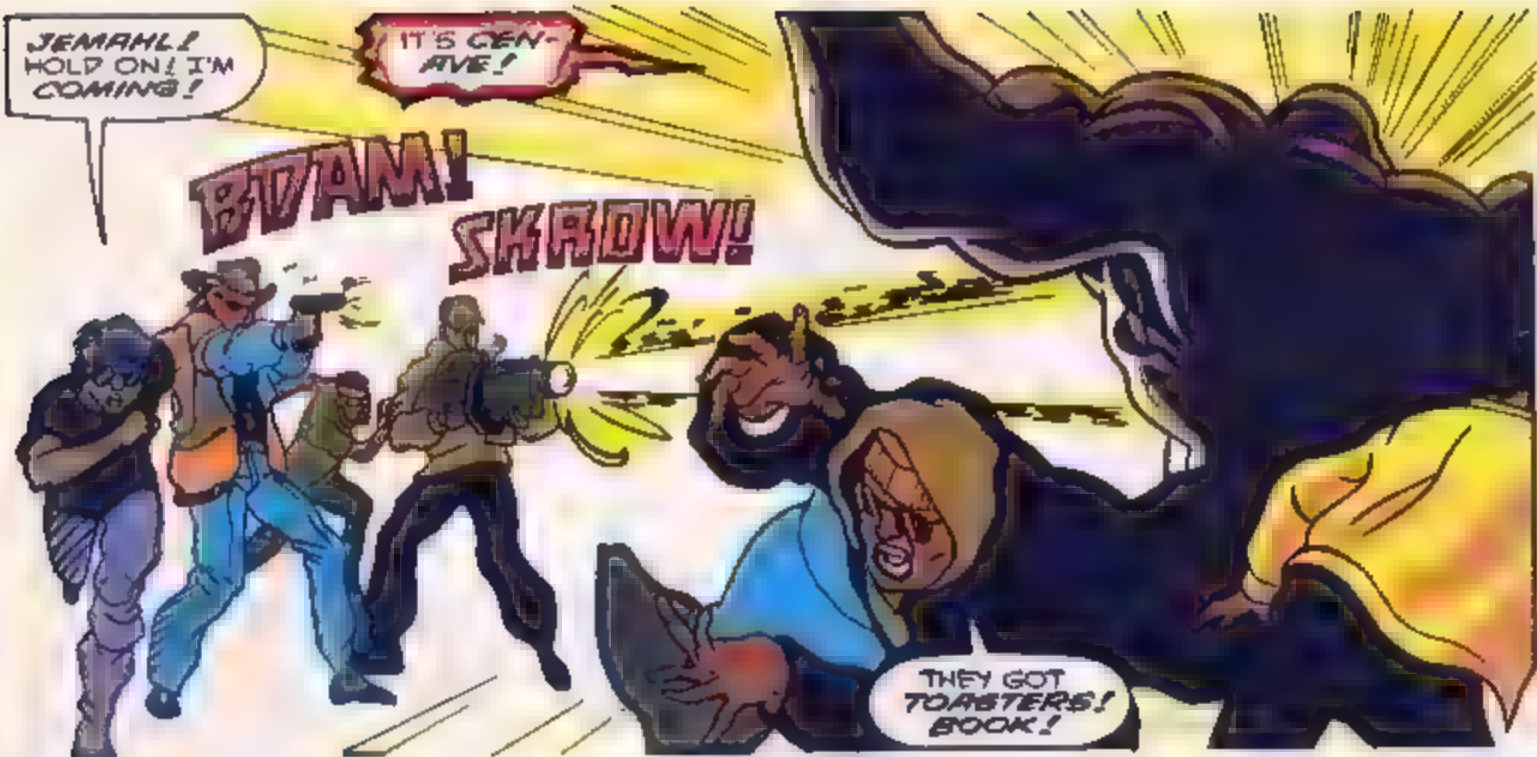
SKRAKOW

YELL!

SOON YOU
BE NUTHIN'
BUT A SPOT
OF GREASE
ON E-STREET'S
TRACK!

GREAT
TIME TA
START A
FIRE-
FIGHT!

I'M
TOAST!



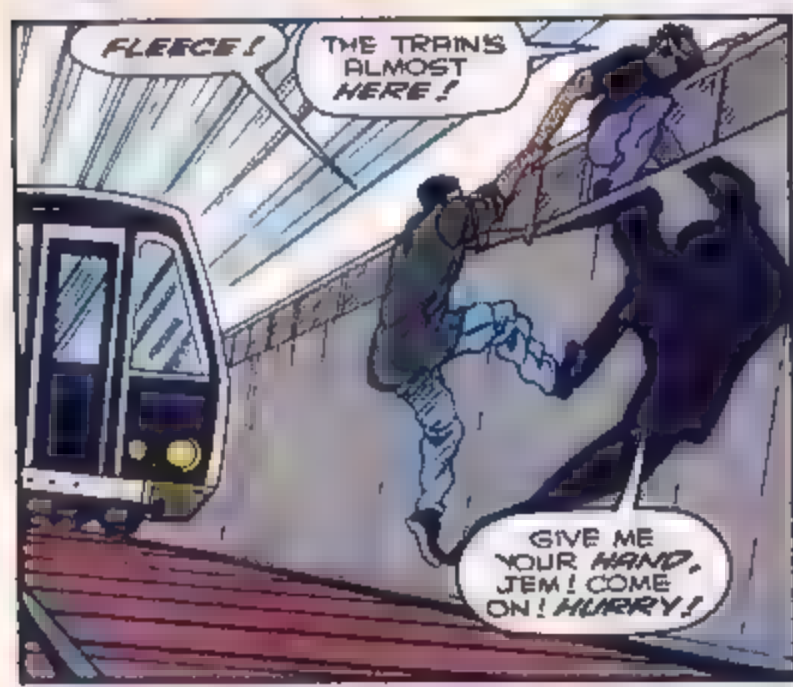
JEMAH!
HOLD ON! I'M
COMING!

IT'S CEN-
AVE!

BOOM!

SKROW!

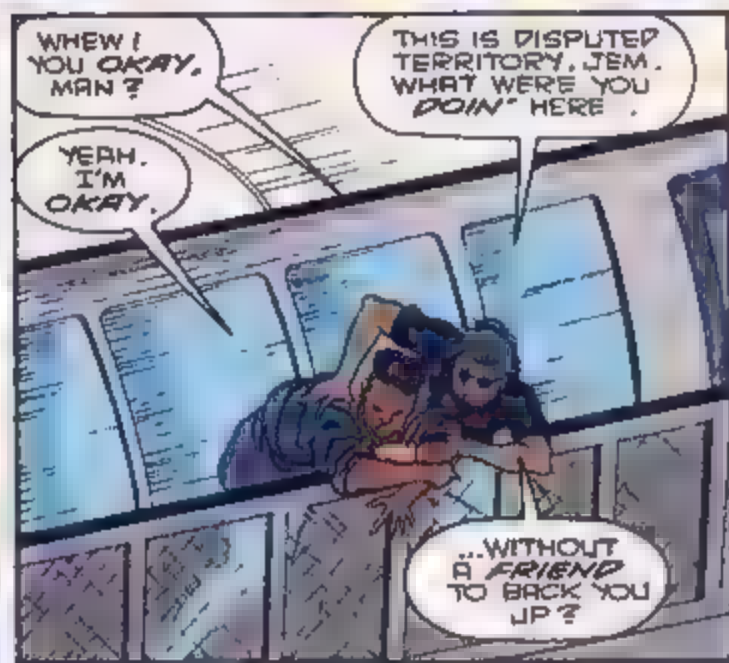
THEY GOT
TOASTERS!
BOOK!



FLEECE!

THE TRAINS
ALMOST
HERE!

GIVE ME
YOUR HAND,
JEM! COME
ON! HURRY!

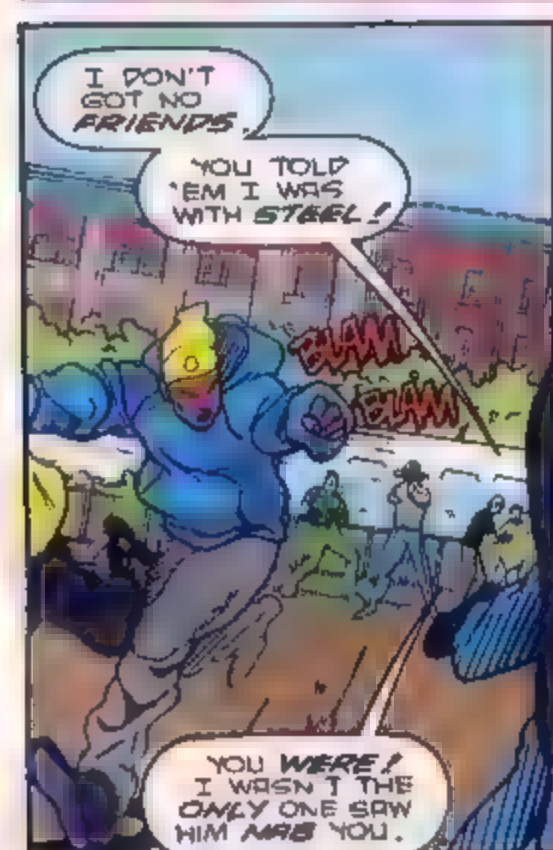


WHEW!
YOU OKAY,
MAN?

YEAH.
I'M
OKAY.

THIS IS DISPUTED
TERRITORY, JEM.
WHAT WERE YOU
DOIN' HERE?

...WITHOUT
A FRIEND
TO BACK YOU
UP?



I DON'T
GOT NO
FRIENDS.

YOU TOLD
'EM I WAS
WITH STEEL!

YOU WERE!
I WASN'T THE
ONLY ONE SAW
HIM MAB YOU.



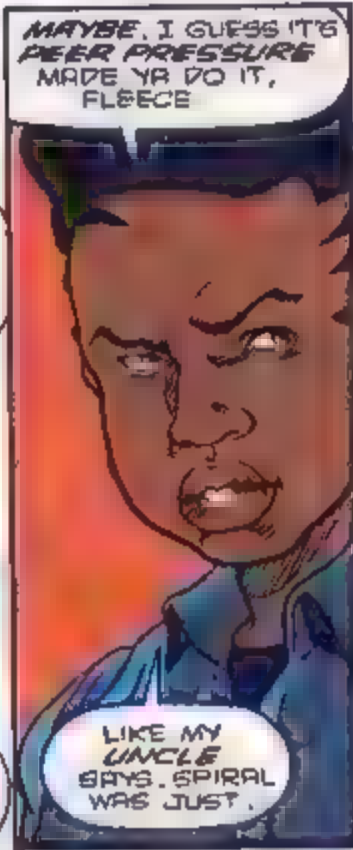
WE DIDN'T
THINK NUTHIN'
OF IT, TILL
SPIRAL GOT US
THINKIN' YOU
DROPPED A
DIME.

LOOK, JEM,
MAYBE WE
SHOULDA
KNOWN
BETTER,
BUT--

BUT YOU
LISTENED
TA THAT
DWEES
SPIRAL
INSTEAD

LOOK, WE
GOT YOU IN
TROUBLE
LAST TIME.
THIS TIME
WE SAVED
YOU.

MAYBE
WE SHOULD
JUST CALL
IT EVEN.



MAYBE, I GUESS IT'S
PEER PRESSURE
MADE YA DO IT,
FLEECE

LIKE MY
UNCLE
SAYS, SPIRAL
WAS JUST.

"...BAD COMPANY."

GUARDS
COMING. KNEW
I COULDN'T
HIDE IN HERE
FOREVER.

TAP
TAP
TAP

DOWN-
LOADED
STUFF THAT
LOOKED
PERTINENT.

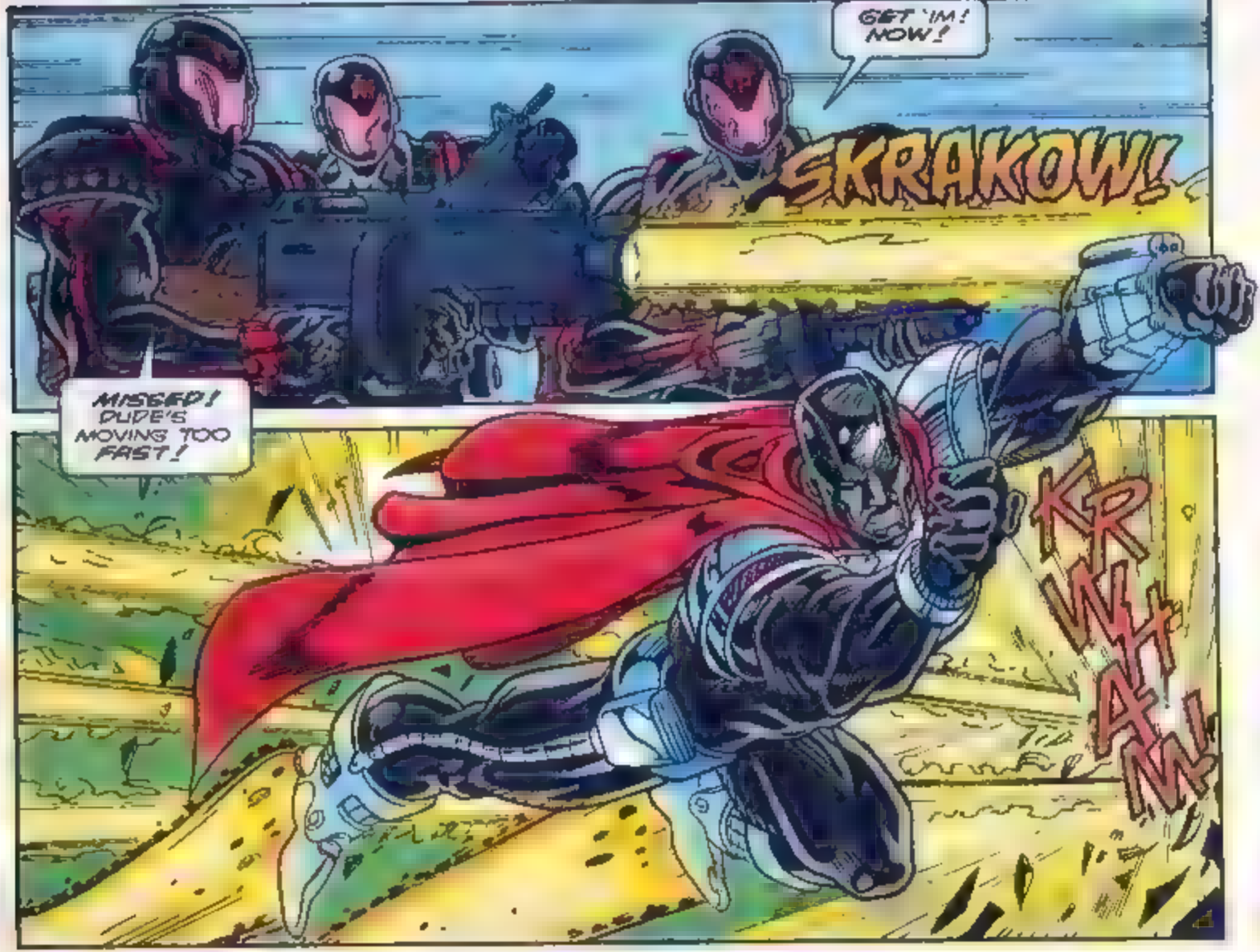
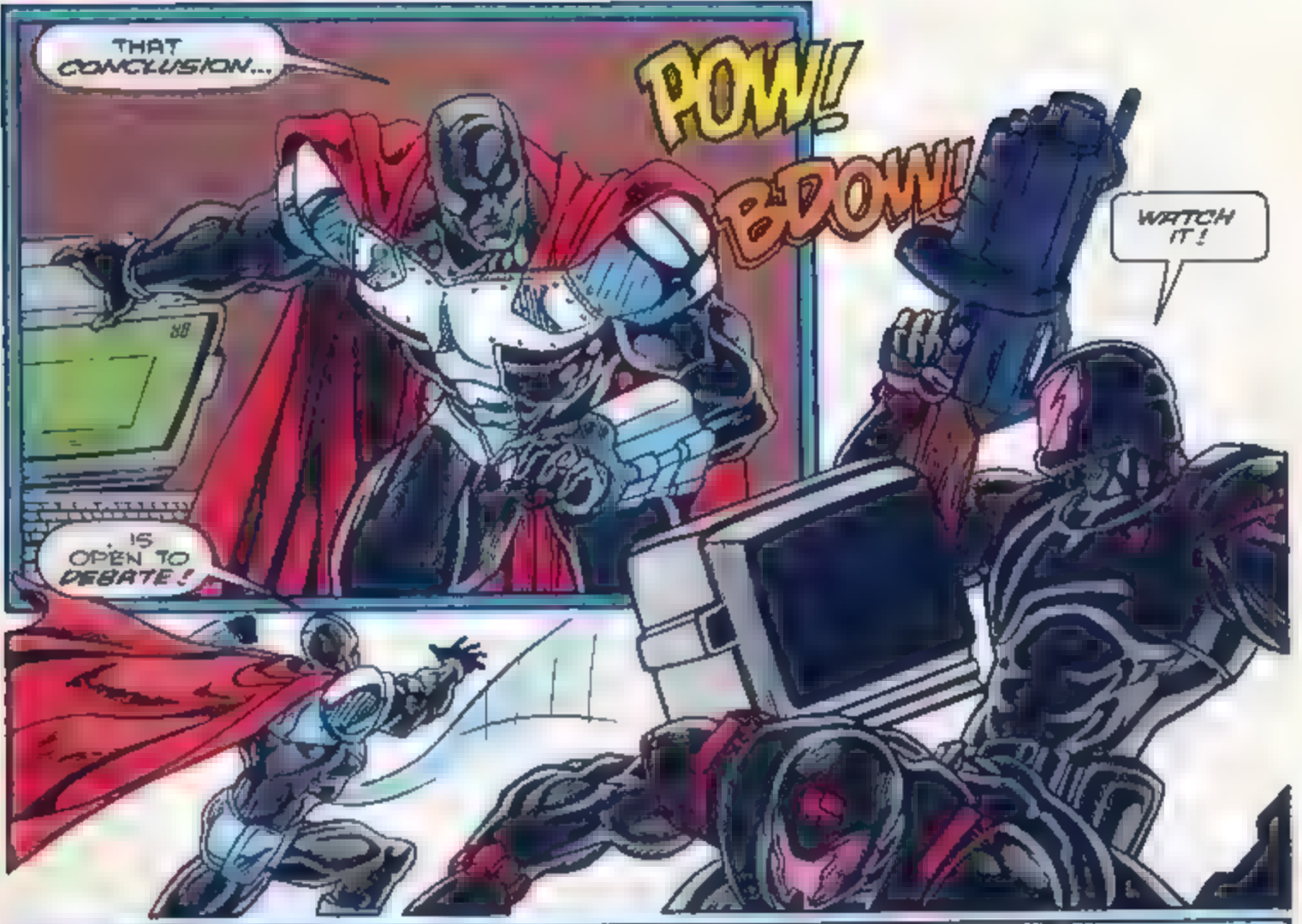
SWITCHED OFF
THE COMPUTER...
DON'T WANT 'EM
TO KNOW I GOT
IN.

WHAT I HAVE
WILL HAVE TO
DO. HOPE IT'S
ENOUGH.

AS YOU SEE,
YOUR PLAN TO
DISTRACT
US BOMBED!

YOU'RE
NUTHIN' BUT
A TWO-TIME
LOSER,
STEEL..

..AND
NOW YOU'RE
GONNA DIE!



EIGHT
AGAINST
ONE
TIME TO
EVEN THE
ODDS A
LITTLE

MY
FOOT!

MY LEG!

THOOM!

THOOM!

NOW
TO HEAD
UP A
FLOOR--

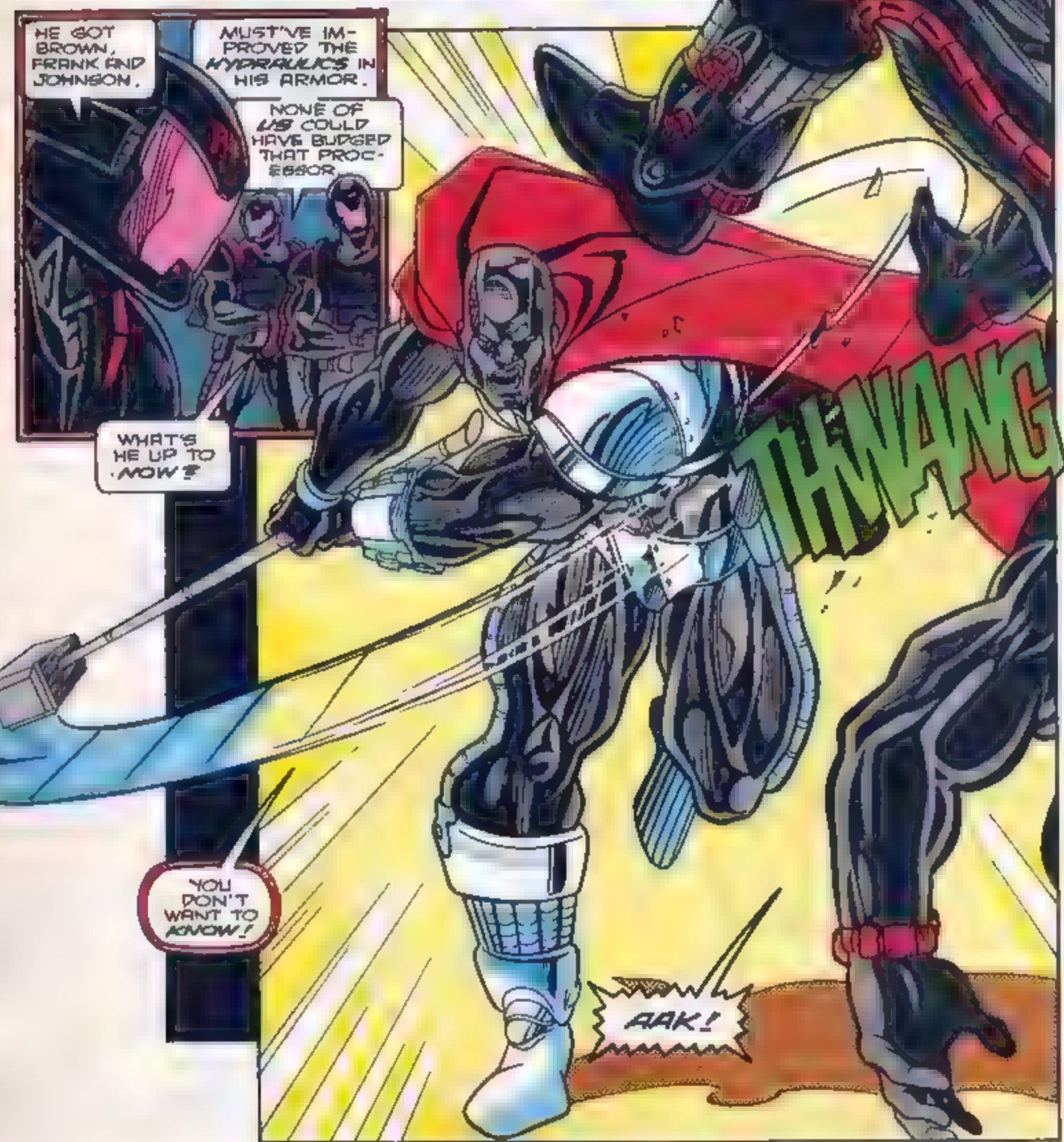
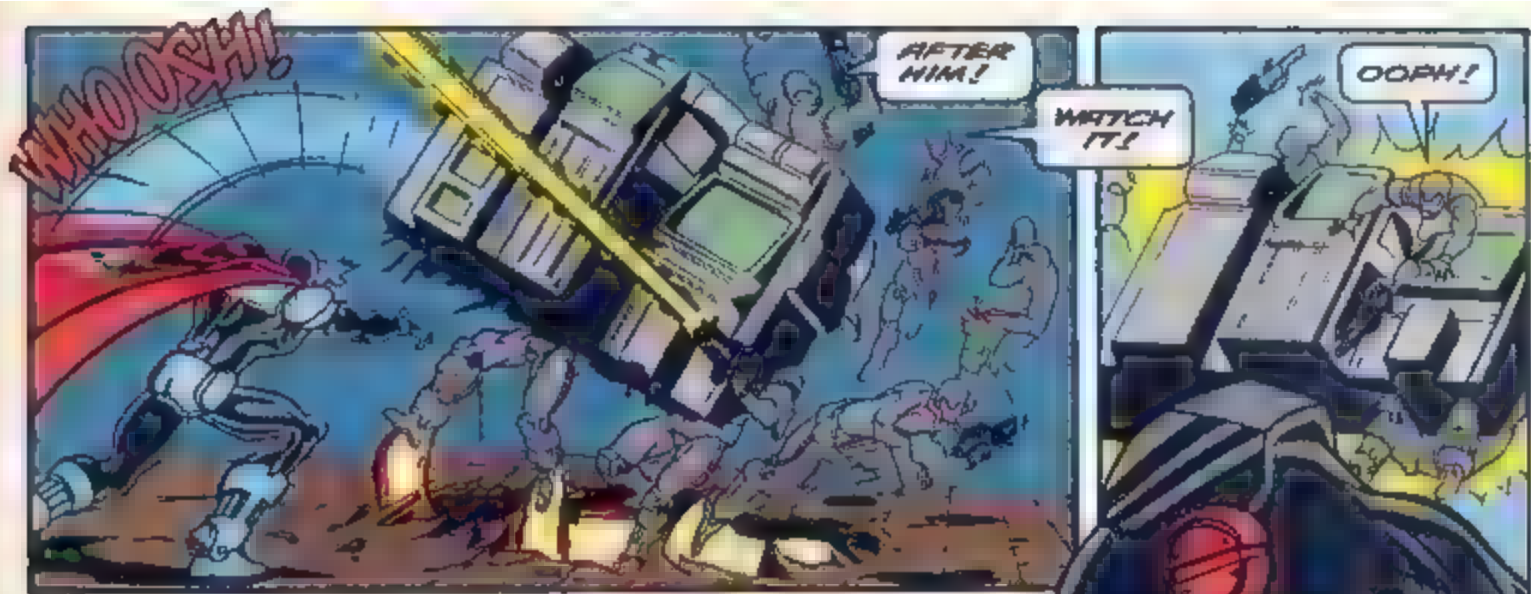
KRACKASHH!

--AND
HOPE THEY
FOLLOW!

HE'S
DISABLED
OUR
BOOSTERS!

NO SWEAT
THERE ARE
ENOUGH
OF US LEFT
TO TAKE
HIM.

JUST TELL
THE BOSS
HOW THE
MISSION'S PRO-
GRESSING.



HE GOT BROWN, FRANK AND JOHNSON.

MUST'VE IMPROVED THE HYDRAULICS IN HIS ARMOR.

NONE OF US COULD HAVE BUDGED THAT PROC-ESSOR.

WHAT'S HE UP TO NOW?

YOU DON'T WANT TO KNOW!

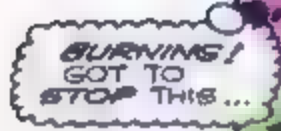
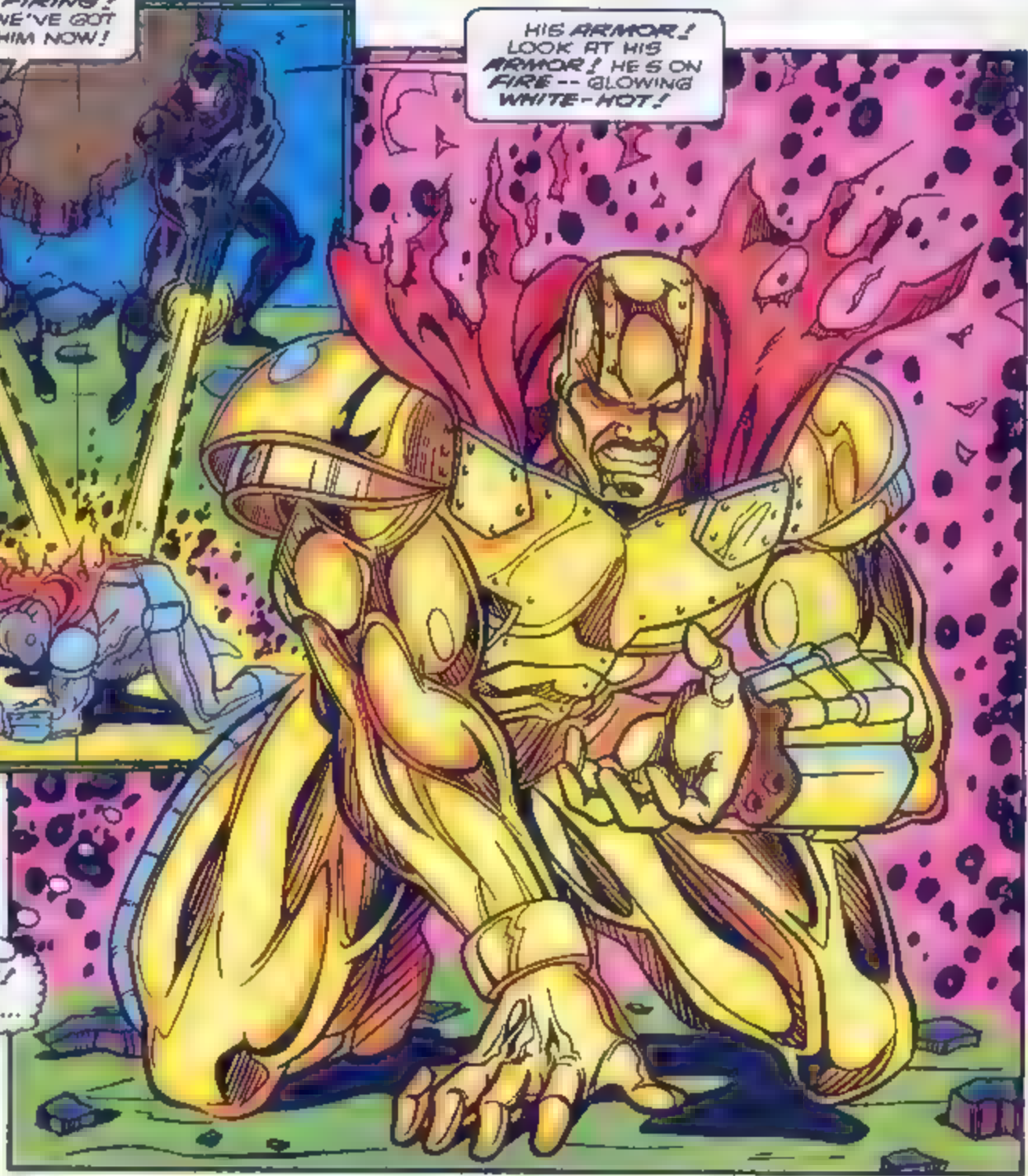
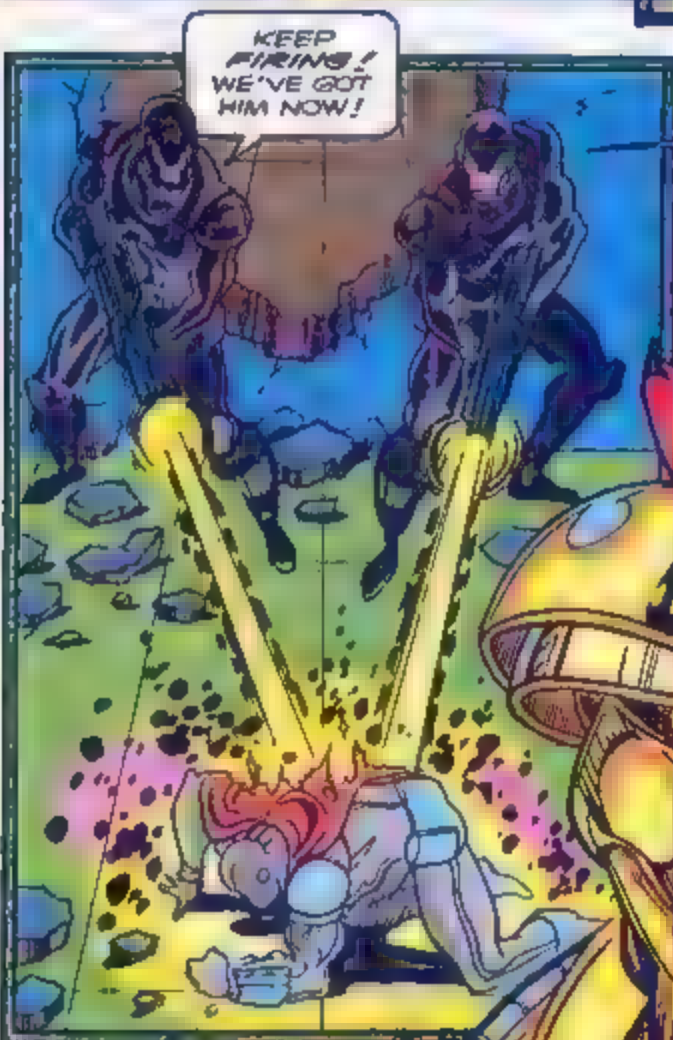
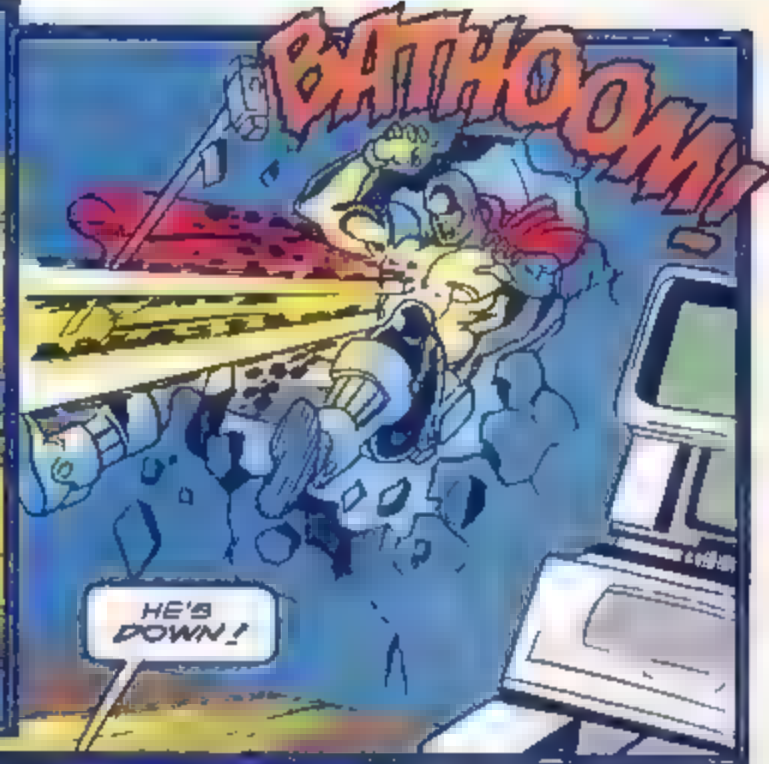
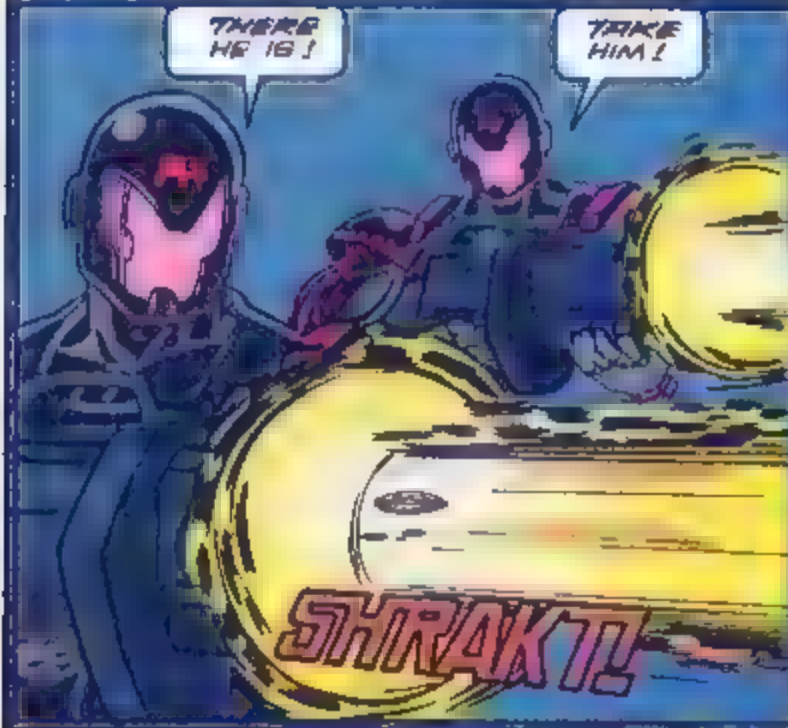
AAK!

THWANG

AFTER HIM!

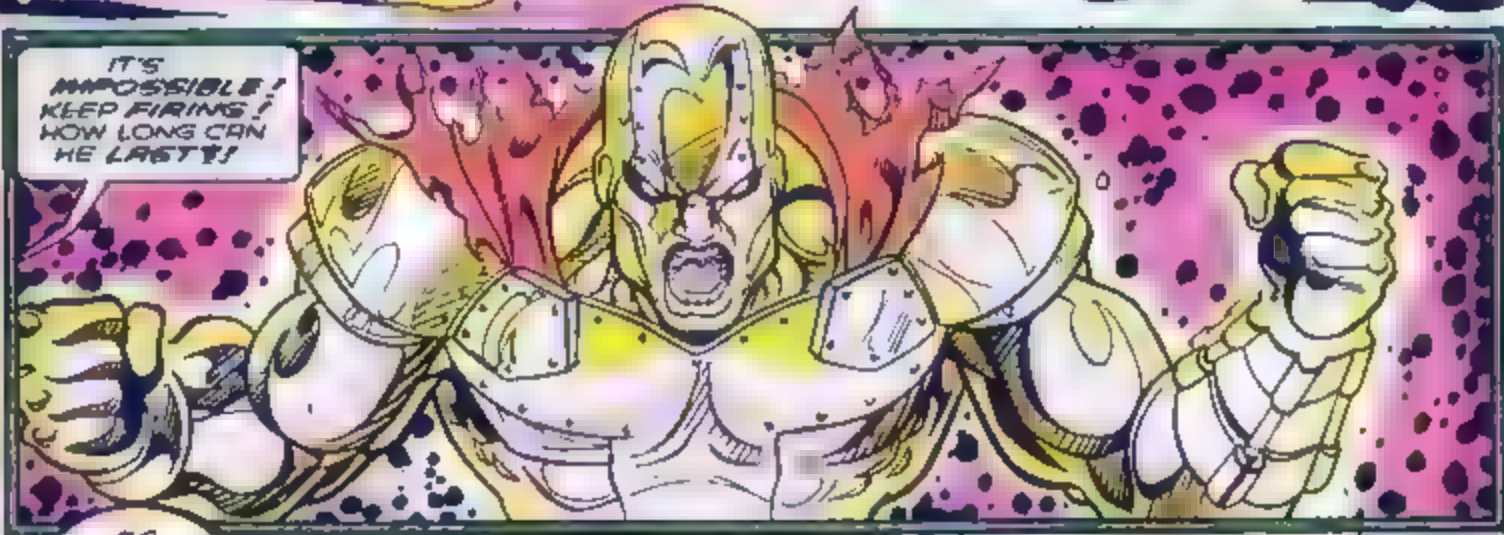
WATCH IT!

OOPH!



WHILE I CAN!

HE'S ON HIS FEET! HE'S COMING FOR US!



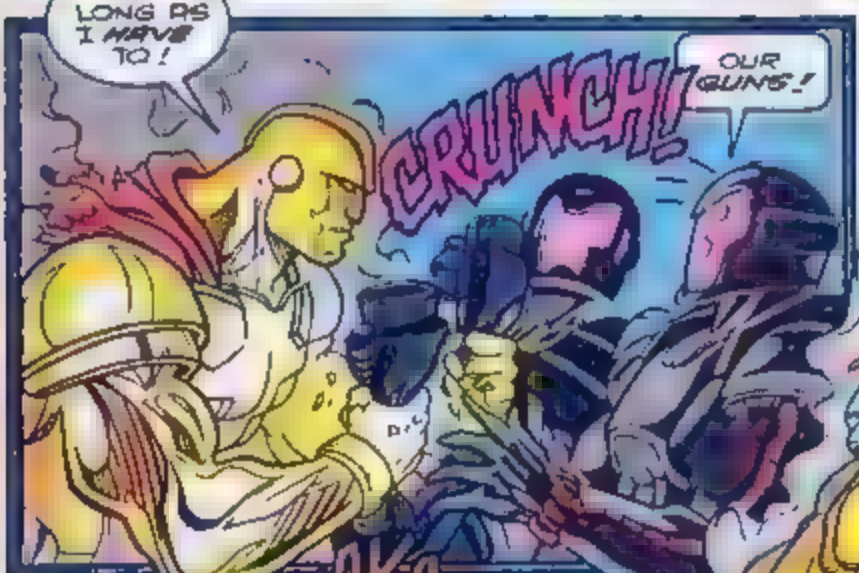
IT'S IMPOSSIBLE! KEEP FIRING! HOW LONG CAN HE LAST?!

AS LONG AS I HAVE TO!

CRUNCH!

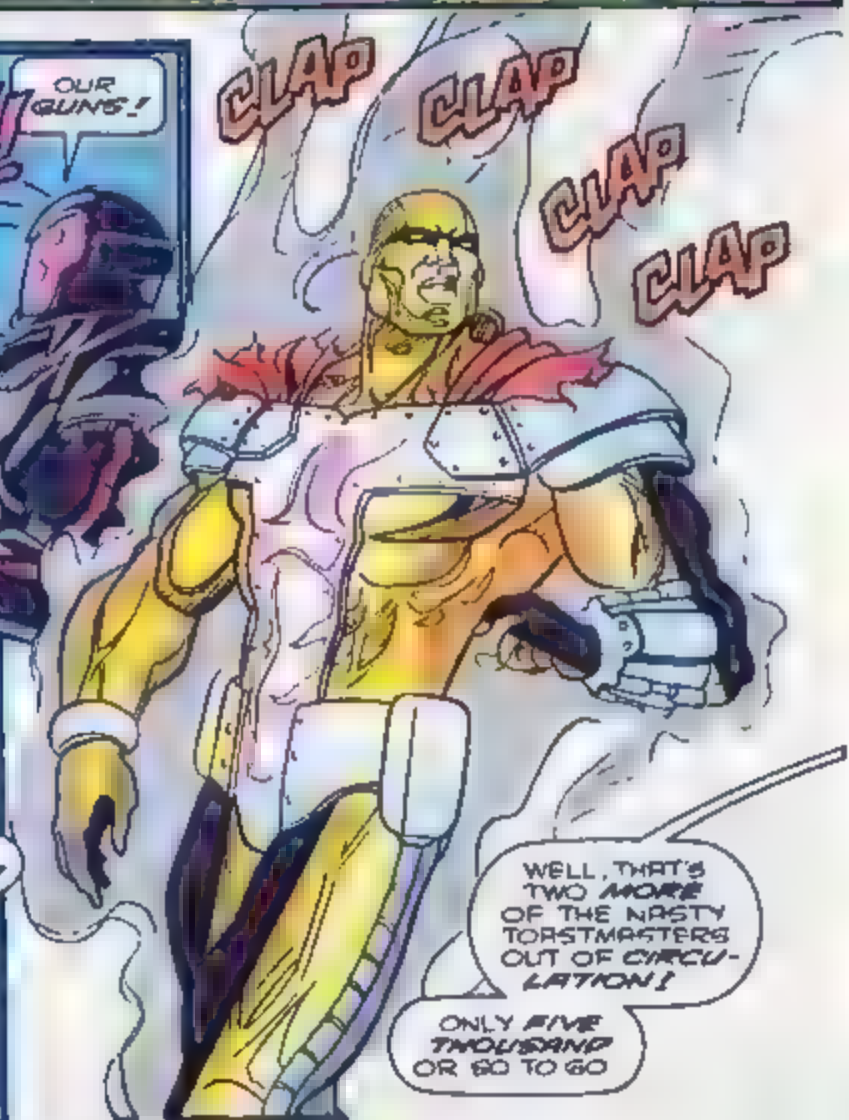
OUR GUNS!

CLAP CLAP CLAP CLAP



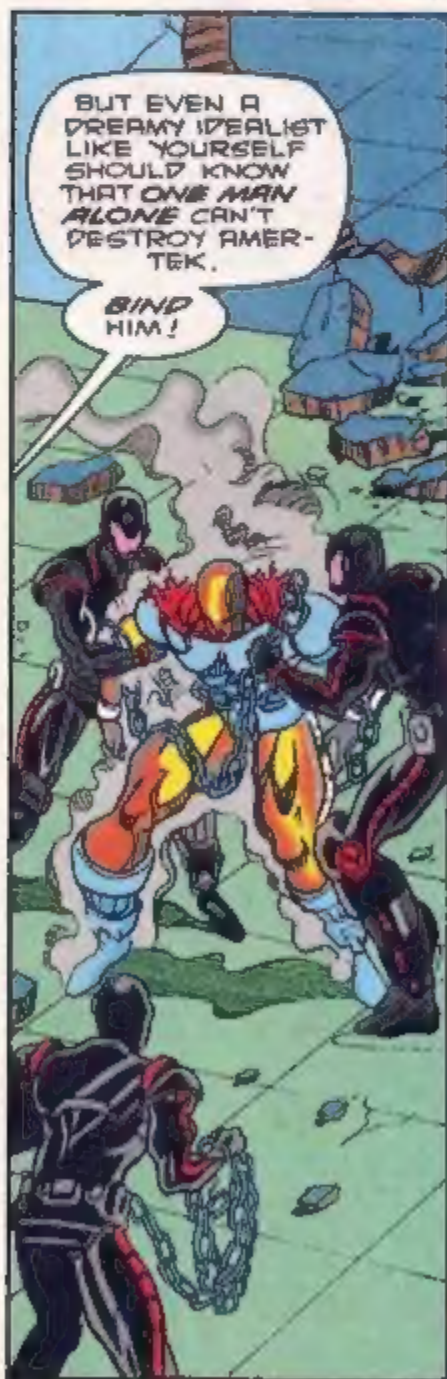
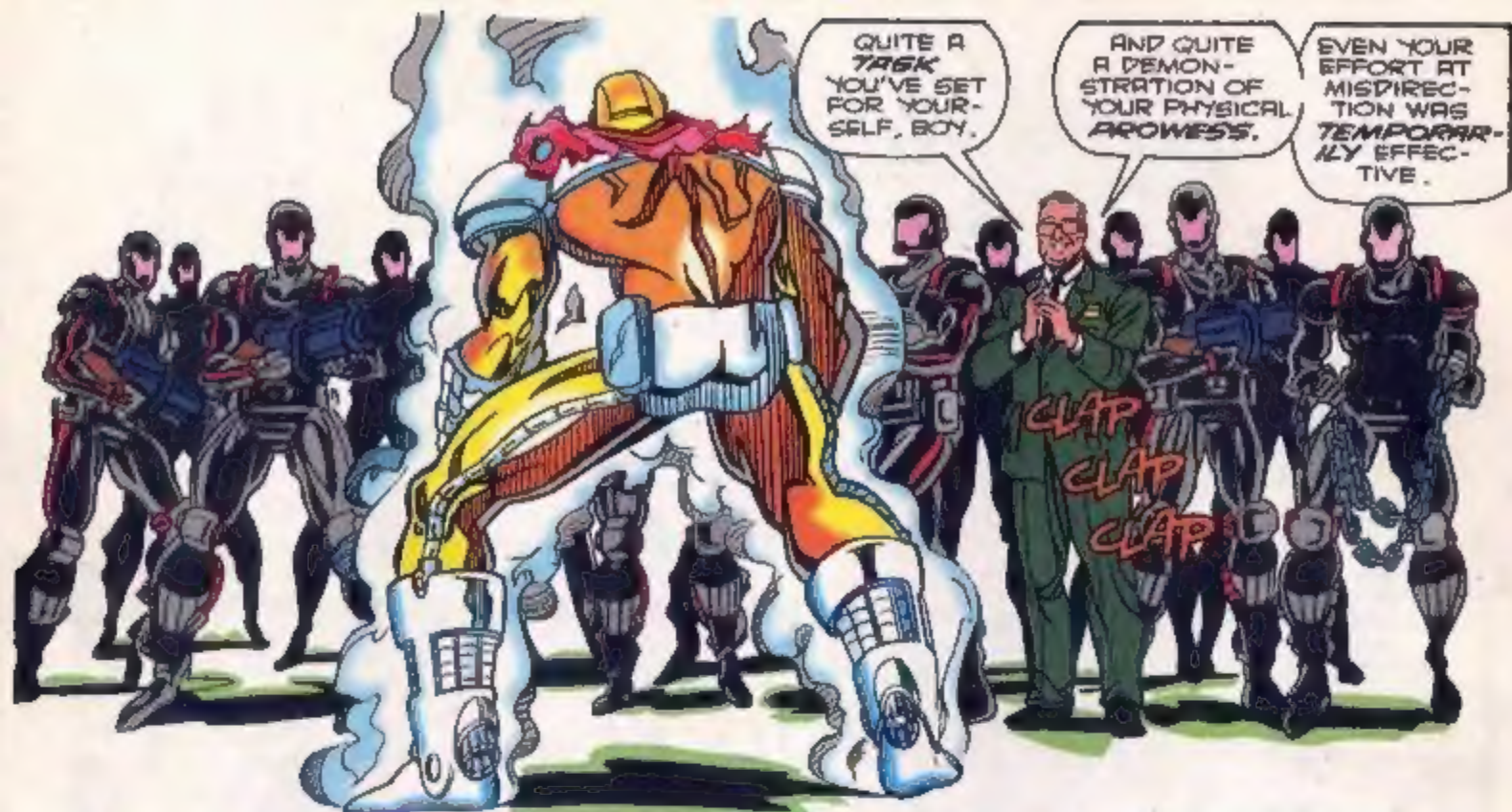
WHACK!

YOUR HEADS!



WELL, THAT'S TWO MORE OF THE NASTY TORMASTERS OUT OF CIRCULATION!

ONLY FIVE THOUSAND OR SO TO GO





FIRE!

NO!



WHAT ARE YOU DOING? PUT ME DOWN!

THE FIGHT RUPTURED FUEL LINES, SIR! I SMELLED GAS!

YOU HEARD THE COLONEL--



FIRE!

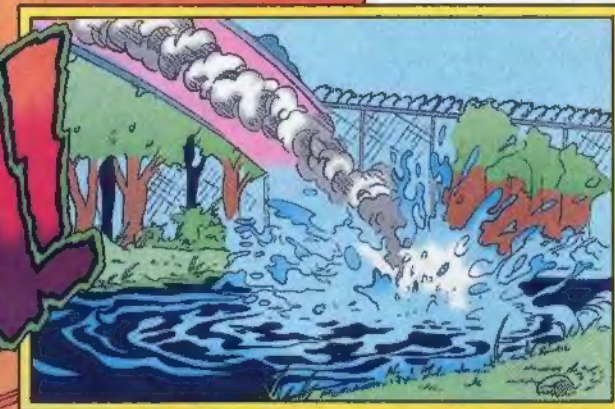
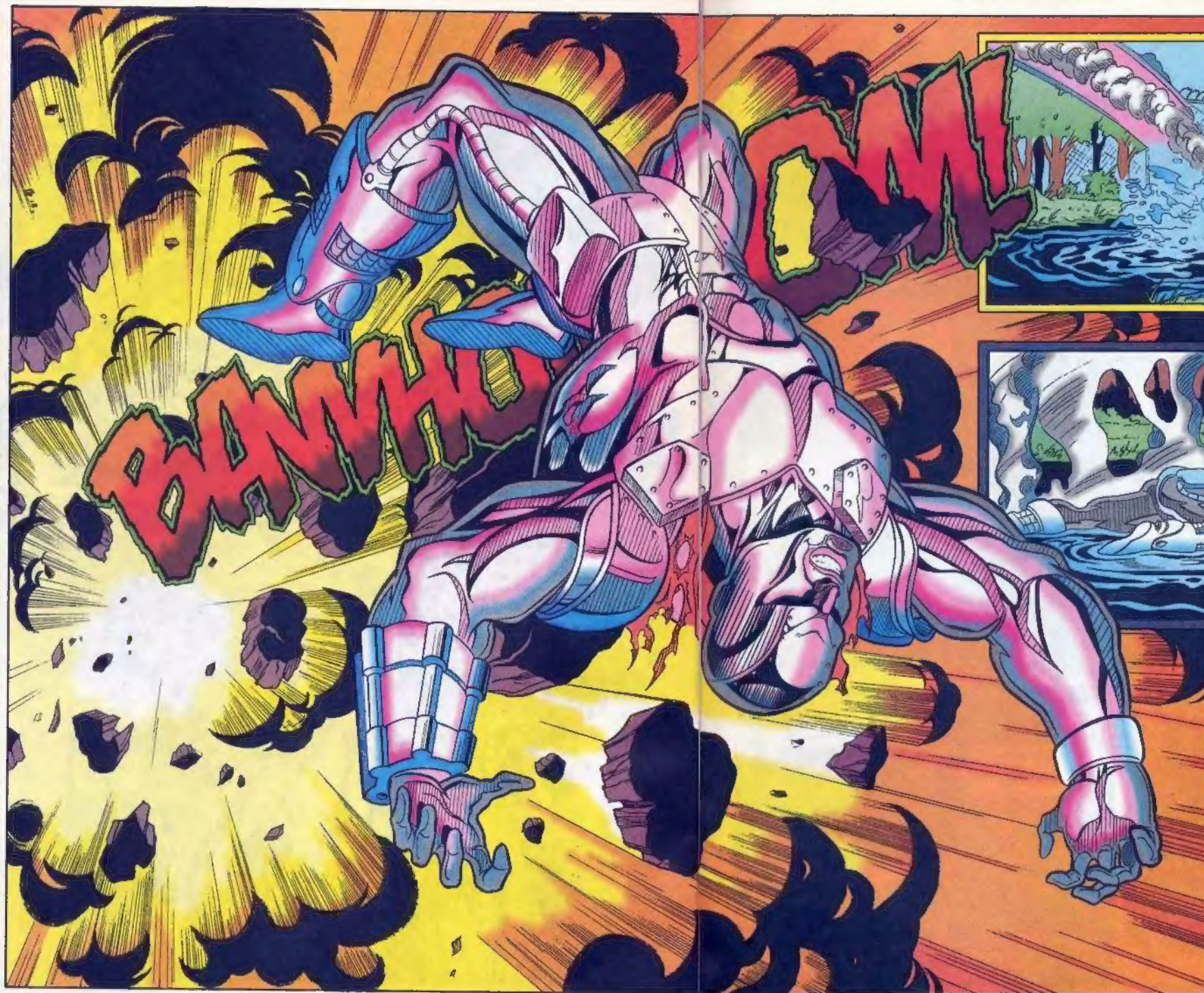
KOW

SKRA



WEAPON FIRE ... WEAKENED ... CHAINS!

I'M FREE!
I'M--



GAS EXPLOSION!
MIRACLE I'M... ALIVE!

PLANNED IN
ENOUGH TIME
TO **DOWNLOAD**
THE FILES I
NEEDED.

CUT THE
DEFLECTIONS
KIND OF FINE.

EXPECTED
THAT **DAMAGE**
FROM A FIGHT
WITH AMERTEK
GOONS...

...WOULD
COVER UP MY
SNOOPING
IN THEIR
COMPUTERS.

DIDN'T
EXPECT SO
MUCH **BURNS**
FOR MY
BUCK.

THE ARMOR
WORKED! THE
HEAT DIDN'T
GET THROUGH
TO HARM THE
DISC!

SHOULD BE
ENOUGH HERE
TO INTEREST
INVESTIGATORS
IN AMERTEK'S
BUSINESS.

IF I'M
LUCKY, THIS
INFORMATION
WILL HELP
BURY THE
COLONEL.

HE WAS GOOD
TO ME... **ONCE**...
A LONG TIME
AGO.

HELPED
TRAIN ME...
HELPED MAKE
ME WHAT I
AM.

BUT HE
WAS ONE
OF THE **BAD**
GUYS, AFTER
ALL.

I TOOK
HIM **OUT**.
I SHOULD BE
HAPPIER.

I WONDER...
WHY DON'T
I FEEL
HAPPIER...?

TO BE CONTINUED!